

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5651

To prohibit the Secretary of Transportation from approving under subtitle VII of title 49, United States Code, any project for the relocation of Runway 24R at Los Angeles International Airport, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 7, 2016

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To prohibit the Secretary of Transportation from approving under subtitle VII of title 49, United States Code, any project for the relocation of Runway 24R at Los Angeles International Airport, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “LAX Community Safe-
5 ty Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Los Angeles International Airport (in this
2 Act referred to as “LAX”) is located in an urban
3 environment and is surrounded on 3 sides by cities
4 and communities in Los Angeles County, California,
5 and is bounded on the fourth side by the Pacific
6 Ocean.

7 (2) LAX occupies approximately 3,400 acres, a
8 relatively small area compared to other airports with
9 comparable passenger volumes and aircraft oper-
10 ations, and this relatively small area results in a
11 higher ratio of operations to acres, which is a meas-
12 ure used to assess overall runway safety risks.

13 (3) LAX has 2 pairs of parallel runways—

14 (A) Runways 24R and 24L, which are lo-
15 cated north of the main terminals and known
16 collectively as the North Runways; and

17 (B) Runways 25R and 25L, which are lo-
18 cated south of the main terminals and known
19 collectively as the South Runways.

20 (4) Los Angeles World Airports, which operates
21 LAX, has proposed relocating Runway 24R north of
22 its current location and argues that doing so would
23 improve safety.

1 (5) A panel of academic experts studied the
2 configuration of LAX and concluded that the airport
3 is safe under the current configuration.

4 (6) Relocating Runway 24R farther to the
5 north would increase noise, air pollution, and other
6 environmental impacts on residents, schools, church-
7 es, and businesses in—

8 (A) the communities of Westchester and
9 Playa del Rey, which lie adjacent to the north
10 side of LAX; and

11 (B) the City of Inglewood and the commu-
12 nity of South Los Angeles, which lie to the east
13 of LAX underneath the arrival flight path.

14 (7) Relocating Runway 24R farther to the
15 north would bring the risk of an aircraft accident
16 closer to homes, schools, churches, and businesses in
17 Westchester and Playa del Rey and, consequently,
18 reduce safety for people who live and work in these
19 communities.

20 (8) Relocating Runway 24R farther to the
21 north would necessitate resetting the runway protec-
22 tion zone for LAX, which could require the removal
23 of businesses and homes in Westchester and Playa
24 del Rey to meet new runway protection zone require-
25 ments.

1 (9) State and local officials who represent the
2 communities surrounding LAX have expressed oppo-
3 sition to relocating Runway 24R farther to the
4 north.

5 (10) Community members of Westchester and
6 Playa del Rey have expressed strong opposition to
7 relocating Runway 24R farther to the north.

8 (11) Relocating Runway 24R farther to the
9 north is not in the best interests of the communities
10 surrounding LAX.

11 **SEC. 3. LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.**

12 The Secretary of Transportation may not approve
13 under subtitle VII of title 49, United States Code, any
14 project for the relocation of Runway 24R, or for construc-
15 tion of a runway north of the location of Runway 24R
16 on the date of enactment of this Act, at Los Angeles Inter-
17 national Airport.

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